

Remarks

The Examiner has indicated that the reply mailed November 13, 2003 was not fully responsive. The Examiner requested that applicants provide a list of claims that read on the elected species and that applicants reaffirm their election of Group III.

Applicants reaffirm Group III claims (*i.e.*, claims 7-20, 23-36 and 42-44) for further prosecution. This election is made expressly without waiver of applicants' right to file divisional or continuing applications directed to the inventions of the claims in the non-elected Groups and claiming priority and benefit from this application under 35 U.S.C. § 120.

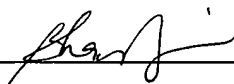
Applicants intend to request rejoinder of claims 1-6, 37 and corresponding dependent claims with the elected group if and when any of the Group III claims are found allowable. Accordingly, applicants have not canceled these claims.

The Examiner has also requested that applicants provide a list of claims that read on the elected species. Applicants have made the required election as follows:

Subgroup	Species	Election	Claims readable thereon
1	species of nucleic acid	single stranded	7-9, 42-44
2	species of what nucleic acid encodes	FR1	10-17
3	species of autoimmune disease	lupus	18-19
4	species of isolated cells	blood cells	20
5	species of amplification	no amplification	7-9, 42-44
6	species of temperature	55°C	23-25
7	species of single-stranded oligonucleotide length	20 bases	26-27, 32
8	species of temperature	55°C	23-25
9	species of restriction endonuclease	<i>MslI</i>	28-29
10	species of length of single-stranded region of double stranded oligonucleotide	7 bases	34
11	species of genetic package	phage	7-9, 42-44

Should the Examiner feel that a telephone conference with applicants' representatives would assist the Examiner, he is invited to telephone the undersigned at any time. Applicants request favorable consideration and early allowance of the pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,



James F. Haley, Jr.
(Reg. No. 27,794)
Bhavana Joneja
(Reg. No. 47,689)
Attorneys for Applicants

FISH & NEAVE
Customer No. 1473
1251 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10020-1104
Tel.: (212) 596-9000
Fax: (212) 596-9090